



A CMS Energy Company

John G. Russell
President and
Chief Operating Officer

October 25, 2005

The Honorable John Moolenaar
The Honorable Howard Walker
Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representatives Moolenaar and Walker:

I am writing to express Consumers Energy's support for your efforts to create incentives and remove barriers to expanding wind generation in Michigan.

As we look to the future, the place of alternative energy in the fuel mix for our generating fleet will continue to grow. Fuel diversity is key to maintaining a reliable, affordable system; wind power is a promising technology that continues to improve. As you may know, Consumers Energy recently launched its Green Generation program in cooperation with the Michigan Public Service Commission. We have entered into power purchase agreements with eight alternative energy projects to supply green power to our customers. As a result, two new wind power facilities will be built in Michigan. We are very pleased to add these renewable energy resources to our generation portfolio.

Your bills address two hurdles faced by wind power developers – cost competitiveness with electricity generated from conventional sources, and siting and construction of the facilities. House Bill 4647 proposes a credit against the single business tax for small wind generators and will help this developing technology become more cost competitive with traditional sources of electricity generation. House Bills 4648 and 4649 propose state zoning standards for these facilities. Wind facilities are important to our state and consistent standards are needed. These standards will need to consider local standards and priorities as well. Your bills present an opportunity to develop a balanced approach that achieves both objectives.

We appreciate your work to find cost-effective ways to advance the development and use of wind energy in Michigan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Russell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.